

Recd. —
am 2 April 30th

Albany 26 April 1836. —

Dear Sir: —

I have just received your
letter. — I will see the Governor, and will
also attend to the matter before the Regents.

A few impressions in relation to the
proposed geological survey of the State should
be correctly promptly. — The Gov. desired
~~only~~ to apply the rule of deduction from the
annual Compensation allowed to those gentle-
men only, who have permanent situations
in connection with literary institutions, and who
are not required to devote more than a part
of the year to the objects of the survey. It
has not been supposed that the rule would
apply to Mr. Halsey, as it was understood
that he was in a condition to devote the
whole year. —

The intimation that a certain

period of time would be necessary in the field, and another period in preparing the reports contemplated by law, seemed to be called for that those, to whom the appointments were offered, might labor under no misapprehension on the subject. The supposition that "a register of working-days" is to be kept (I quote your own phrase) or that a system of espionage with regard to the exact time ^{is to be established} to be devoted to the service to be performed, certainly does injustice to the Governor. — The supposition has been that ~~some~~ ^{Gentlemen} of the necessary qualifications could be engaged in the work for a reasonable compensation. The public servants in this State are all poorly paid; and among them are to be found some, at least, whose talents would command much better pecuniary rewards in private occupations. I confess I did think,

in proposing \$1500. as an annual compensation, that
fame, and not money, would be the overruling
consideration with those, who should embark in the
work. -

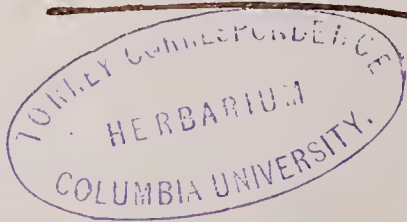
It is to be considered that \$25000, per an-
num, constituted the entire appropriation. From this
sum must be reserved enough to pay for the trans-
portation of specimens, the expense of analysis,
which will be considerable, and the cost of pub-
lication. The latter will be equal to \$30000.
It will require rigid economy, therefore, to execute
the entire work without exceeding the appropriation,
large as, at first glance, it may seem to be.

The legislature has been exceedingly liberal,
and it is not the intention of the Governor, as I
understand it, that any part of ^{the appropriation} shall be
unexpended. -

Sincerely, respectfully &c Yours,

John A. Dix

Dr. Torrey.



Dr. John Carey,

New York.

Recd. May 9th
Am

Albany 8. May 1836.

My dear fr:—



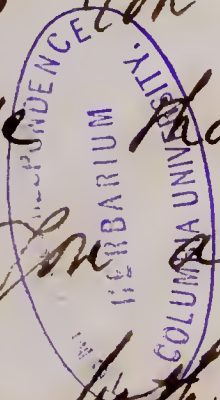
I have just received your favor, having been absent from the city some days. I need not say I regret the course you have felt it your duty to take; and you must allow me to disclaim wholly the most remote design of intimating that any gentleman, who has declined taking part in the great public work about to be executed, has been influenced by pecuniary considerations, excepting so far as he may have felt constrained by a sense of duty to himself and family to devote himself to the more lucrative pursuits, in which he may have been embarked. I alluded to the compensation, which I well know is small, for the ser-

pose of explaining why I did not recommend
a more liberal provision for services, which, I
was well aware, would command more
in other situations. With these convictions,
I did not suppose that the places about to
be created would be accepted, excepting for
the consideration, which they would bring,
and the facilities, which they would present
to Scientific Gentlemen to extend their reputa-
tion in the departments of investigation, to
which they have dedicated their talents
and labors. I did, indeed, fear that these
considerations might, in some cases, be over-
ruled by others of a more imperious character.
This apprehension has been realized in Dr.
Jackson's case, as well as our own; but I

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant.

Yours decline.

trust you will not judge me so harshly as to suppose that I am capable of ascribing to either of you a sentiment unworthy of the rank, which you both hold among men of science, or of imputing to either an inaccurate appreciation of the conflicting considerations, which have been presented to you, between which it has devolved on you to choose. My letter was written in great haste, & amidst the pressure of official duties. I kept no copy; but I fear I may have given cause, by a careless expression of my views, for an inference, which does injustice both to my feelings & intentions. I hope to be in New York in a few weeks, and that I may have the pleasure of seeing you. — I am not aware of the arrangements contemplated by the Governor in case



Dr. John Torrey,
New York.

